

County of Santa Rosa

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the foundation of Florida Agriculture, farm production, occurs on 44,000 farms representing 10.5 million acres of farm land, or nearly one third the state's land area; and

WHEREAS, the American Farmer, a national symbol of strength and strong moral fiber, has displayed ingenuity in times of prosperity and perseverance in the face of hardships while supplying our state, nation and world, year in and year out, with an abundance of high quality agricultural goods and products; and

WHEREAS, Florida farm families are stewards of the land contributing to the health, beauty, productivity and quality of our state's water, soil and forest resources for the benefit of all Floridians; and

WHEREAS, our state's secondary agricultural education program and our agricultural institutions of higher learning are responsible for developing highly trained and skilled young men and women entering careers in agricultural production, processing, sales and other services; and

WHEREAS, our agricultural research institutions and UF IFAS Extension programs contribute significantly to the quality of life for all Floridians through the advancement of the science and art of agriculture in the areas of soil and water conservation, biotechnology, food safety, and farm and forest productivity; and

WHEREAS, agriculture and natural resource industries are the core of our county's health, recreation and economy; and agricultural, horticultural, and livestock revenues have a gross value of more than \$72 million annually, while the value of forest industry contributes more than an additional \$34 million to Santa Rosa's economy; and

WHEREAS, 2008 marks the 35th anniversary of National Agriculture Day, an effort to raise awareness of the positive contribution agriculture makes in providing the necessary food and fiber of everyday life,

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Rosa County, do hereby proclaim March 16th through March 22nd, 2008 as

AGRICULTURE WEEK

in Santa Rosa County, and urge all our citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Rosa County, Florida, this 13th day of March, 2008.



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BY: _____

John Broxson, Chairman